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Coram nobis litigants file CWRIC report in U.S. District Court

SAN FRANCISCO—The report of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians was lodged with the federal court March 14 in the first appearance by attorneys re-opening *Korematsu v. U.S.*, the leading Supreme Court case which upheld the legality of the World War II evacuation and internment of over 120,000 Japanese Americans.

The CWRIC report, which concluded that there was no "military necessity" to justify the internment, was filed in the first court session for the cases involving *Korematsu*, *Gordon Hirabayashi*, and *Min Yasui*.

Judge Marilyn Patel received the CWRIC report, which was offered by Victor Stone, the U.S. attorney representing the government. Stone, of Washington, D.C., was assigned to defend the internment camp cases.

Judge Patel ordered Stone and *Korematsu's* lead attorney, Dale Minami, to meet to discuss further revelation of government documents to the petitioners. She set a hearing date of April 25, 10:30 a.m.

for argument if the government objects to the requests made by *Korematsu's* attorneys.

Stone argued that the government should not be made to respond in written form to the petition until after the CWRIC releases its recommendations on redress and reparations. Stone said the recommendations will not be released until June, and the government has "not yet formulated a policy as to whether it has an interest in fighting these cases."

Minami, expressing fears of "unreasonable delays," countered that "the petitioners are advanced in age and should have the opportunity to clear this blot on their records before they leave this earth."

Judge Patel ruled that the government should have a position on how to defend the internment cases by April 25, and that a formal response by the government will be required 30 to 90 days after the CWRIC releases its recommendations.

She also concluded that she expects to set trial dates thereafter.

NCJAR files its lawsuit for reparations from U.S. gov't

WASHINGTON—William Hohri, chairman of the National Council for Japanese American Redress, filed a lawsuit March 16 against the U.S. government on behalf of 25 Nikkei plaintiffs and his organization.

The NCJAR class-action suit seeks approximately \$10,000 per cause of action per individual. According to the suit, when all causes of action are tallied, the suit seeks in excess of \$200,000 for each Japanese American who was excluded from the West Coast, and later interned in relocation camps during World War II. Theoretically, the total payments requested by this suit would exceed \$24 billion.

Hohri and NCJAR decided not to wait for the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians' recommendations for redress to former internees of the World War II camps. Instead, NCJAR will use the court system to seek financial reparations by challenging the constitutionality of the evacuation.

The suit states that the United States government unlawfully conspired to deprive Japanese Americans of their constitutional rights by fabricating claims of "military necessity" in order to expel them from their homes on the West Coast and send them into prison camps deep in the interior of the United States. The suit also states that:

"At the time of these actions, responsible United States officials knew their actions were in direct contradiction to authoritative intelligence reports already in defendant's possession attesting to the loyalty of the plaintiff class and the absence of any need to subject them to mass deprivations of their civil rights."

The United States is also charged with misrepresenting and suppressing information in the government's possession attesting to the loyalty of Japanese Americans, and raising false claims before the Supreme Court pertaining to supposed disloyal acts and racial propensities by Japanese Americans.

Further, the suit charges the United States with maliciously interfering with these Americans' right of access to the courts, by delaying and mooting cases, punishing and threatening persons who challenged the U.S. actions, and threatening to withdraw their rights of United States citizenship and habeas corpus.

The lawsuit charges that the United States actions against Japanese Americans inflicted manifest injustice on them, including massive deprivations of their constitutional rights as Americans; loss of their homes, businesses, education and careers; severe physical and psychological injuries; loss of life; destruction of family ties; and tremendous personal stigma. Many of these injuries have continued to afflict Japanese Americans throughout their lives. The suit further charges that the United States has failed to provide full and fair compensation for these injuries.

The suit raises 21 separate causes of action against the United States, including violations of plaintiffs' constitutional rights to due process, equal protection, protection from unreasonable search and seizure, habeas corpus, and fair trial, as well as claims for negligence and violations of rights accorded by other federal and state laws. The suit also seeks a judicial declaration that the United States violated the plaintiffs' constitutional and civil rights.

JACL Reaction

In response to the announcement of NCJAR's suit, the JACL's National Committee for Redress issued a short statement, which said in part that while NCJAR's course of action differs from that of the League's, the JACL respects NCJAR's efforts:

"We recognize that the NCJAR class action suit is one of many valid and legitimate approaches for seeking redress. While it is not the chosen course that the JACL has selected, we encourage any approach that any group might seek in addressing the redress issue."

In Los Angeles, an NCJAR press conference was held in the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center to announce the lawsuit.

Continued on Next Page

Washington Senate votes to pay \$5,000 to Nikkei workers

OLYMPIA—Agreeing that "we're easing our consciences," the State Senate March 8 sent to the House a bill to pay \$5,000 each to 38 former state employees fired in 1942 because they were of Japanese ancestry.

Passage of the bill followed some of the highest-flying oratory of the session, but still 11 members of the Senate voted against it. Those opposed said it was unfair to all the other Japanese Americans who were unjustly relocated during World War II and of other Americans "who never came back."

But 35 senators went along with Sen. Eleanor Lee, (R-Burien), who said, "We're doing no more than we would for a felon who was falsely convicted."

'All we can do'

Added Sen. A. N. (Bud) Shinpoch, (D-Renton), "There is no way we can right what we did... All we can do is make some small contribution toward an apology."

"True," Shinpoch said,

"we're easing our conscience. But it's not every day that you get an opportunity to apologize for a wrong. We have an opportunity to make some small redress."

The majority of senators did agree to an amendment by Democratic Majority Leader Ted Bottiger (D-Graham), and Republican Leader Jeanette Hayner, (R-Walla Walla), to limit the payments only to the former employees or their surviving spouses.

They deleted a portion that would also reimburse children of those employees.

That was over the protest of Sen. Kent Pullen, (R-Kent), who said it was the children of the Japanese Americans taken from their homes after Pearl Harbor and shipped to relocation camps in Idaho, Wyoming and Utah who had suffered the most.

"Research has found that many Japanese American youths (in the relocation camps) suffered psychological scars" from the camps, Pullen said.



Rafu Shimpo Photo

HANNAH TOMIKO HOLMES (right), a deaf-mute and former internee, expressed her support for the NCJAR lawsuit through sign-language, noting that during her internment the government provided few facilities for the handicapped Nikkei in the camps. Mrs. Holmes was among the participants at the NCJAR press conference held March 16 in Los Angeles.

Another false 'redress form' issued

SAN FRANCISCO—In 1977 the JACL Committee for Internment Credit in consultation with the National Archives in Washington, D.C., developed a form to verify dates of internment in order to determine eligibility for additional social security benefits. The form letter was addressed to Joseph Howerton of the Industrial and Social Branch of the Civil Archives Division.

The letter re-surfaced at the CWRIC public hearings in Los Angeles, and a non-Nikkei was believed to have been distributing the form as a means to file claims for financial redress.

While the JACL does not know who was circulating the form, it recently learned that it is not being used by the National Archives and is no longer valid. John Tateishi, JACL Redress Director, advises, "Any individual who receives such a form in the mail should ignore it. If individuals are interested in obtaining the dates of detention, they should contact the National Archives in Washington, D.C. for the revised form letter."

Tateishi added that whoever is circulating the form letter now is giving the impression that "compensation is immediate" and that the action is a "cruel hoax." He stressed that there is no reason to file any kind of form at this time, unless individuals want their internment dates for their own information. The government, noted Tateishi is not requesting nor are they requiring any form on this matter at this time.

The CWRIC is expected to issue their recommendations to the U.S. Congress by June 1983. However, JACL advises that the process to pass redress legislation by the Congress and the President may take a number of years before it is established.

Hayner blamed the federal government for the action. "The state had to comply," with President Franklin D. Roosevelt's executive order moving the Japanese Americans, she said.

"It was wrong of the federal government and us likewise to have done that," she said. "It was a black mark on our history."

But Sen. George Fleming, (D-Seattle), sponsor of the bill, said, "Our state officials did more than just comply with the order."

"Gov. Arthur Langlie, Mayor Earl Millikin (of Seattle)... were all advocates of

the relocation). They didn't just go along with it."

Sen. E.G. (Pat) Patterson, (R-Pullman), one of those who voted against the bill, said it is "totally wrong that our public officials should be condemned for speaking out for the president's order under war-time conditions."

He said a bill in Congress by Rep. Mike Lowry, (D-Mercer Island), for national reparations for Japanese Americans whose constitutional rights were violated in the relocation, "is where the action should take place."

Continued on Page 8

Yasui says political battles ahead in reparations quest

NEW YORK—In a strong show of community interest and support, over 150 persons gathered March 6 at Columbia University's Grantland Rice Suite to hear Min Yasui, coram nobis petitioner and JACL's National Redress Committee Chair, speak about the recently issued Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC) Report, the consolidation of the three coram nobis cases and JACL's plans for legislative activity nationwide.

Yasui began by noting that international interest has been aroused by the CWRIC Report because it addresses a central concern: that of the "rights and integrity of the human being." Reiterating the Report's findings that "high government officials failed in their res-

ponsibility, indeed, to protect and preserve the Constitution of the United States of America" and that "The evacuation was not militarily necessary but was a result of racism and the failure of the processes of our government," Yasui stated emphatically, "In retrospect, we know now that the President of the United States (FDR) was a racist, and that's a documented fact."

Yasui proceeded to instruct the audience to stand by on the open question of the Commission's recommendations. He stated, "We know that at least a majority of the Commission is sympathetic to us, however, no one knows what the Commission will recommend in

Continued on Page 8

A few more editorials on Nikkei internment

Several other newspaper editorials on the report of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians recently appeared in newspapers from the Midwest and the East Coast.

The *Chicago Sun-Times* said March 1 in an editorial, "Historic Reminder" that "(t) rue Americans with the dedication to the Bill of Rights required of true Americans will enthusiastically concur in the findings" of the CWRIC, most notably that a "grave injustice" was inflicted on Japanese Americans.

The *Sun-Times* also pointed out that former assistant secretary of war John J. McCloy had "disagreed" with the CWRIC's findings. However, the *Sun-Times* took issue with McCloy and others who shared his viewpoint:

"A few people disagree. John J. McCloy, assistant secretary of war at the time, calls the report 'a shocking outrage' that sullies 'the reputations of many honorable men' on the basis of hindsight that 'none of us had.'"

"Which misses the point—that the Bill of Rights is inscribed in stone to be upheld with more devotion in crisis, when it is subject to challenge, than in time of civil harmony, when it can be upheld without effort."

"The greatness of a Franklin Delano Roosevelt will survive this departure from democratic grace. And some president of the future will be greater if, mindful of the coming judgment of history, he adheres rigidly to the commandment that 'no person shall be... deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law.'"

The *Milwaukee Journal* on March 4 wrote the editorial, "Finally Facing a Cruel Misdeed," which offered its support for some form of reparations:

"Too often, alas, there is no way to redress ancient injustices—simply because they are ancient. But this historic injustice occurred only 40 years ago, and many of those who languished in those camps are alive today."

"Before its mandate expires in June, the commission is likely to recommend compensation, as much as \$4 million, to be distributed among the survivors. It probably isn't enough. For some of the victims, no amount of money can heal the hurt. But paying compensation is at least something that can be done—and something that should be done."

The *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* said in its editorial Feb. 27, entitled, "When Racism Became Policy" that even though the CWRIC has not recommended any reparations yet, it may have already served a greater purpose:

"Although the commission has not yet recommended financial compensation for the victims of internment, many of whom lost their homes

Continued on Page 5

Ten years later, life goes on for a former Vietnam war POW

AUSTIN, Tx.—A Nikkei former Vietnam war POW was recently featured in an article of the American Statesman newspaper, and he told of some of the problems he faced in re-adjusting to civilian life.

It has been 10 years since Terry Ueyeyama, 47, got out of North Vietnam's "Hanoi Hilton" prisoner-of-war camp. Ueyeyama was among the 587 U.S. Navy and Air Force pilots who were released in February and March of 1973, as part of President Nixon's negotiated peace settlement.

The POWs came home to a relatively short hero's welcome and a long decade of re-entry into a society that, for some, had become almost foreign to them.

Ueyeyama, who lives in Austin, said, "I have no bitterness. When you are in the military, there is a good possibility you will be shot, killed or captured. It's part of the job. You are prepared to accept that fate."

Ueyeyama was among the many pilots who planned military careers, men who had unshakable confidence in their own abilities. That confidence was needed during their captivity.

Ueyeyama, who manages an office building in downtown Austin, spent five years as a prisoner of the North Vietnamese. He was shot down in the spring of 1968 while on a low-level reconnaissance flight.

He remembers his first contact with the North Vietnamese: "They were hitting me, but I felt no pain, and certainly no fright. It was more confusion than anything else. Your confusion then goes to dependency, feelings that you've let your family down, and all those self-incriminating thoughts."

Ueyeyama being a Nikkei (Sansei), said this fact caused some confusion among his captors and merriment among fellow prisoners.

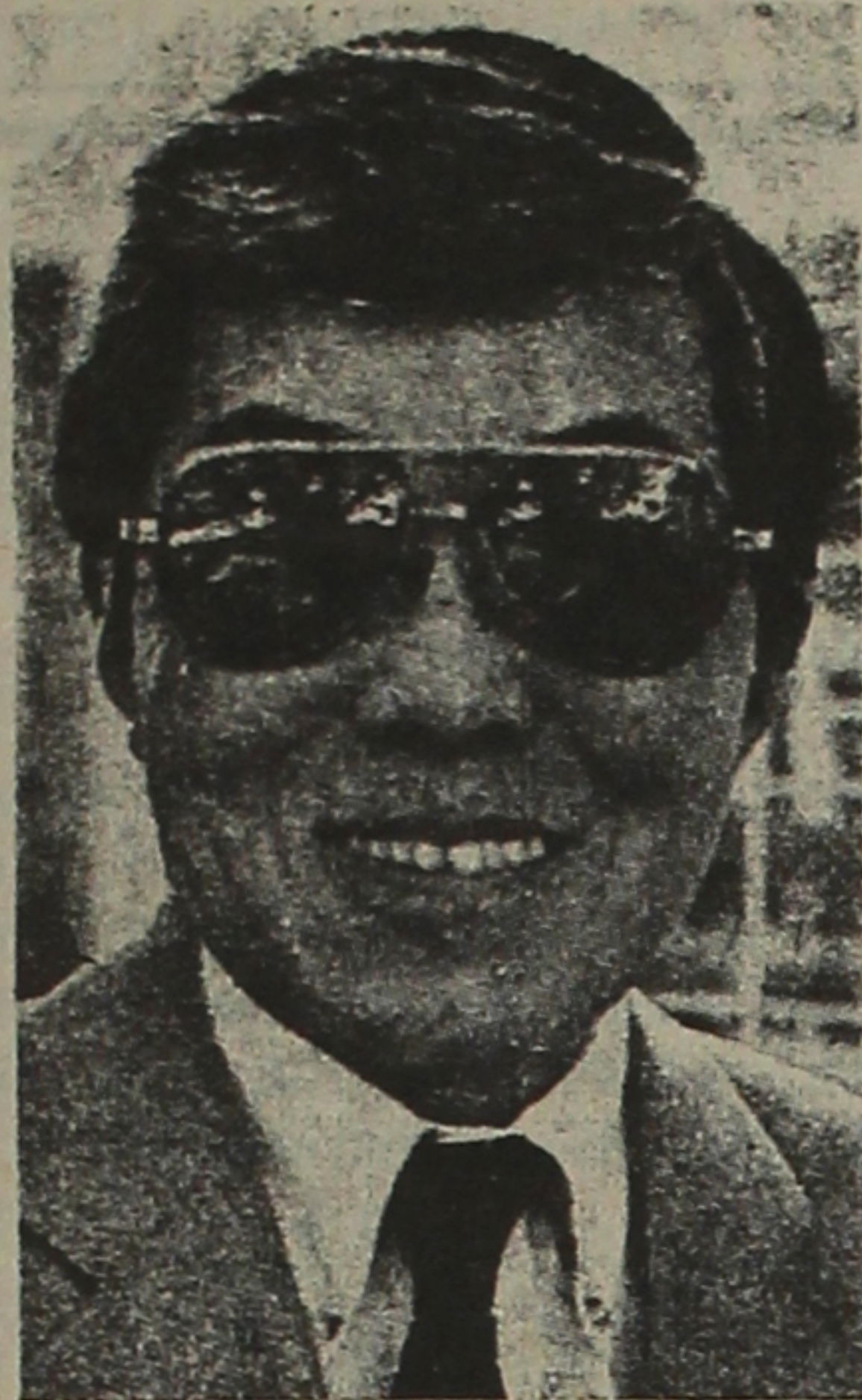
"At first, the Vietnamese thought I was a Korean mercenary, then they thought I was a Japanese mercenary," he said. "But the guys really used to kid me, because I can't speak a word of Japanese."

Ueyeyama said there were bright moments, even in his unfortunate situation. Shackled in chains, he watched the sun go down one evening over the lush vegetation of the rice paddies.

"It made a deep impression on me, that I could still appreciate that type of beauty," he said.

Ueyeyama remains thoughtful and introspective about his imprisonment, but it does not rule his life. He stayed in the Air Force until brain surgery forced his retirement as a colonel in 1980. He is considering another career, perhaps in law.

"I was not exactly a maverick in



Terry Ueyeyama

the military, but I was pretty independent," Ueyeyama said. "Leaving was like being shot down; your situation turns 180 degrees. Normally when you retire, you start planning, but I had no map to lay out. I was thrust out before I was ready."

Ueyeyama said he also found it jarring when, as a returning POW, attention was lavished on him and other former POWs by the press and public. They were called upon to give speeches and interviews. They were given a plush dinner at the White House.

The attention "just started to wear me down," Ueyeyama said. "A quiet period would have been more beneficial to get back together than the false lifestyle we accepted. I didn't prudently select what I should do. I should have just taken my family into the mountains."

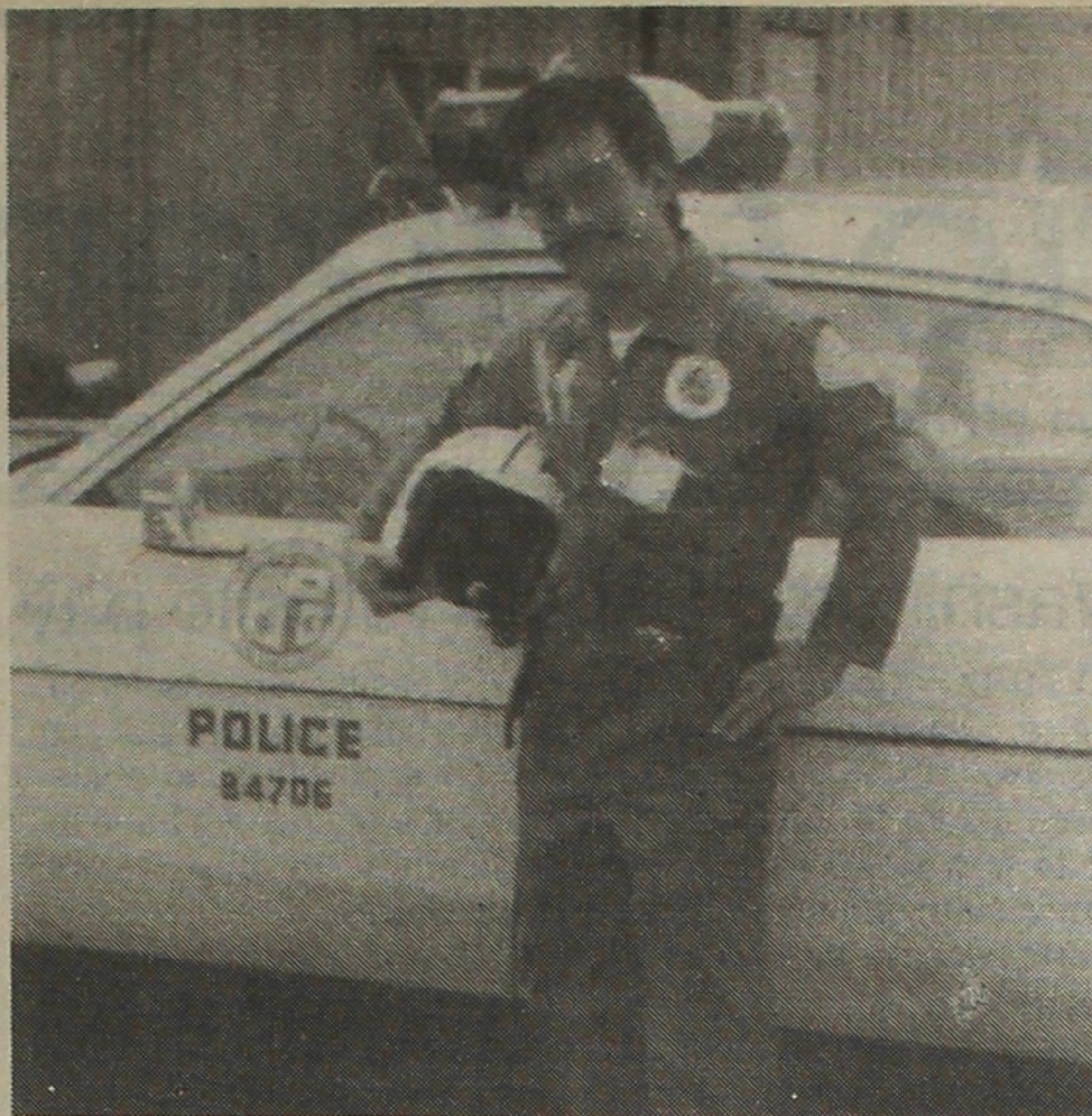
Today he keeps his POW experience tucked into his background. Many of his friends do not know he was a POW, he said, and he doesn't tell them unless they ask.

"It's like a middle-aged guy thinking about when he once was an athlete," Ueyeyama said. "It's ridiculous. I think the whole thing was overglorified."

He sometimes thinks about his imprisonment, but it is not an everyday reflection.

"I don't know if I've expunged it all, and sometimes my mind wanders back to some experience," he said. "Even if it is just for a split second, it leaves little imprints in your memory banks."

Ueyeyama said his three daughters "looked at me very curiously" upon his return. "It was obvious there was a gulf. I'm not exactly a Prussian but, being a military officer, I have some qualities that lean toward the domineering. I've made a positive adjustment in that, before, I was a staunch, compulsive personality, but now I set aside time to do things." #



IN MEMORY—Los Angeles Police Reserve Officer Stuart Taira, shown here in 1980, was buried Mar. 8 with full honors as hundreds of fellow officers attended the services to pay him a final tribute. Taira, 28, had been riding in a police helicopter and surveying the tornado-damaged areas of South Central L.A. on Mar. 1, when the copter's blade struck a power line and crashed to the ground. While attempting to save the life of a fellow officer trapped in the wreckage, the aircraft's blade struck Taira and killed him. LAPD Chief Darryl Gates said of Taira during the services, "He said, 'I want to serve' and he served well."

AP liaison director to retire from county

LOS ANGELES—Robert "Bob" Hayamizu will be honored by his many friends and colleagues at a retirement celebration to be held Thursday, March 31, at the Los Angeles Biltmore Hotel, Crystal Ballroom.

Hayamizu is retiring after 25 years with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services. He is leaving as Director of the Department's Asian-Pacific Community Relations Section.

Several public officials are expected to attend on March 31 to join in recognizing Bob's many contributions to the community. Tickets for the March 31 retirement banquet are available by calling Patti Terazawa at (213) 572-5558. #

Government

Japanese deputy foreign minister Nobuo Matsunaga, 60, was promoted to vice foreign minister Jan. 28, succeeding Ryozo Sunobe who retired the same day, the Foreign Ministry in Tokyo announced. (Matsunaga, who was Japanese ambassador to Mexico from 1978-1981, hosted a reception for delegates attending the Pan American Nikkei Convention at his residence two years ago, which is remembered by nearly 100 JACLers who were guests.)

Medicine

Lindy F. Kumagai, M.D., Professor of Medicine and Chief, Division of Endocrinology, UC Davis, School of Medicine, was elected Vice-President, California Board of Medical Quality Assurance (BMQA) for 1983 and re-elected President, Division of Licensing, which is responsible for the licensing of all physicians in California. Dr. Kumagai was reappointed in June, 1982 by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. for a four year term. #

Sports

Ed Kaihatsu of Park Ridge, Il. captured first place in individual foil fencing at the Big Ten Championship Tournament at Ohio State University on March 5. Kaihatsu, a senior at the University of Illinois, will represent the school at the NCAA National Championship Mar. 24-26. In 1982, Kaihatsu was a finalist in the U.S. Open National Fencing Championship, earning him a ranking of 17th in the country. Ed is the brother of Chicago JACL Chapter President Jane Kaihatsu.

For the Record

In the Mar. 11 PC, the story on LAPD reserve officer Stuart Taira (pg. 2) listed his survivors, but one brother, Steve, was erroneously left out. Also, Stuart Taira's age had been listed at 26, when he was actually 28 at the time of his death.

Businessman named to Oregon Transportation Commission

PORTLAND, Ore.—Sam Naito, a Portland businessman and civic leader, was appointed by Gov. Vic Atiyeh to the Oregon Transportation Commission on March 9.

Naito will succeed Tom Walsh on the powerful state agency. Walsh, a Portland contractor, recently was named by Atiyeh to the state Land Conservation and Development Commission.

The appointment is actually a double one as Naito will take over the remainder of Walsh's unexpired term through June 30 and then begin a new four-year term of his own that will expire June 30, 1987.

An Atiyeh press aide said the double appointment was done for "convenience's sake" so it would only have to go through a single Oregon Senate confirmation.

The appointment came as a surprise in many quarters as Naito's name had not been prominently mentioned in the various stages of the pre-appointment jockeying for the much sought-after post.

Anthony Yturri, chairman of the Commission, said Naito was "a very good appointment, and he will make an excellent commission member."

Naito said he was "looking forward to the challenges of the commission and helping the betterment of Oregon highways and mass transit."

The Transportation Commission oversees the state Department of Transportation, which in turn is the umbrella organization for such diversified state agencies as the Highway Division, Public Transit Division, Motor Vehicles Division, Parks and Recreation Division and Aeronautics Division.

In Naito, the commission will be getting a member well versed in both economic and civic developments.

He has served as a Port of Portland commissioner, a Lewis & Clark College trustee and a member of the Multnomah County economic development advisory committee. He is president of the Japanese Garden Society and active in various committees for the enhancement of the arts and social services in Portland.

He and his brother, William Naito, recently was named "First Citizens of 1982" by the Portland Board of Realtors.

Starting with the family business, Norcrest China Co.—founded 60 years ago by their father, Hide Naito—the brothers have branched out into numerous other enterprises, including redeveloping several downtown commercial buildings, operation of 14 retail stores and development of the McCormick Pier apartment project along the Willamette River.

Sam Naito is a Portland JACL member. #

ELA shop owner killed, robbed of \$50

LOS ANGELES—A 65-year-old man was robbed and murdered in his Boyle Heights dry cleaners shop Feb. 24, and some police are concerned for the safety of Asian American businessmen in the area.

A bandit apparently walked into Saratoga Cleaners on Brooklyn Ave at 11 a.m. and demanded money from owner Harry Hirabayashi, according to police.

Police believe the suspect ordered Hirabayashi to open the cash register and then shot him once in the head with a small caliber handgun. The suspect then robbed the shop's cash register and took Hirabayashi's wallet.

Police said Hirabayashi may have resisted, and that the assailant probably made off with only about \$50 in bills and change.

LAPD Lt. Noel Cunningham said that another Asian had been robbed in the same area a week

before, and the police are concerned that "bandits might think (Asian shop owners) have money."

Hirabayashi had been in business at the same location for close to 25 years. Cunningham noted that some officers even took their uniforms to the shop to be cleaned.

Though the killer escaped, Cunningham said the police have strong leads on the suspect.

Obituary

Aiko Sakamoto, former PC correspondent for Long Beach-Harbor JACL, passed away after a prolonged illness March 1 at St. Mary's Hospital, Long Beach. She is survived by h Yasushi, s Alan, d Judy Morillm Michiko, Aya and 6 gc: m Iki Fujitsubo, br Kunihiro, Haruo, William Fujitsubo, sis Hiroko Fujitsubo.

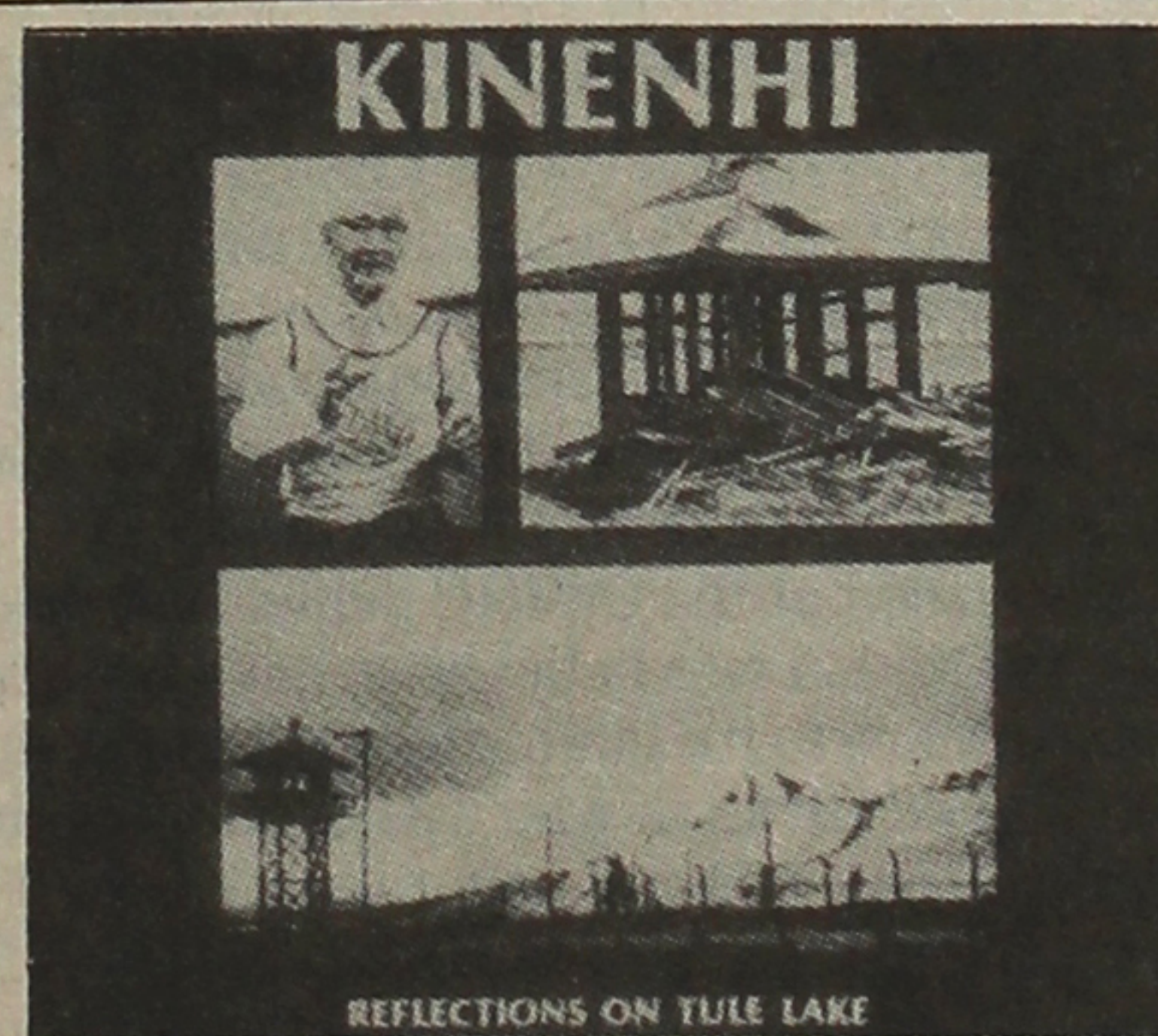
NCJAR Continued from Front Page

Joyce Okinaka, an attorney representing the NCJAR plaintiffs, said that the Councils' suit differs from the current coram nobis efforts of Gordon Hirabayashi, Fred Korematsu and Min Yasui in that NCJAR is seeking monetary damages and is challenging the constitutionality of the internment, while the coram nobis efforts are attempting to overturn convictions of the three litigants.

In reaction to the NCJAR suit, Rep. Robert T. Matsui (D-Sacramento) said, "The merits of the case are legitimate, but I have some problems with the timing." He added, "Some members (of Congress) may say: 'This matter's in court now; let's wait and see what happens.'" Moreover, he said, "We wouldn't have the leverage of a potential lawsuit, if this one fails."

In addition to Hohri and NCJAR, the other plaintiffs named in the suit include:

Hannah Takagi Holmes (Los Angeles); Chizuko Omori and Haruko Omori (Seattle); Midori Kimura (San Jose); Merry Omori (Glenview, Il.); John Omori and Juro Omori (Glenview); Gladys Sumida (Washington, D.C.); Kyoshiro Tokunaga (San Jose); Tom Nakao (Renton, Wa.); Harry Ueno (San Jose); Edward Tokeshi (Arcadia, Ca.); Kinno-suke Hashimoto (Riverdale, NY); Nelson Kitsuise and Takeshi Kitsuise (Chicago); Kumao Toda and Suketaro Toda (Washington, D.C.); Kaz Oshiki (Washington, D.C.); George R. Ikeda (San Jose); Theresa Takayoshi and Tomeu Takayoshi (Seattle). #



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Buddhist Churches plan to study more social issues

SAN FRANCISCO—The 1983 National Council Meeting of the Buddhist Churches of America was held on February 25-27 in San Francisco. Some 250 delegates and ministers, representing 62 temples from throughout the continental United States, met for the three day meeting conducted by President Herb Osaki of Portland.

Among the decisions made at this year's meeting held at the Buddhist Church of San Francisco and the Miyako Hotel, were the endorsement for the activation of a BCA Social Issues Committee which will present American Jodo Shinshu viewpoints on current social issues.

A \$460,000 BCA budget for 1983 was approved as well as a \$240,000 budget for the Institute of Buddhist Studies. The Council also endorsed the continued perusal by the Institute in its affiliation plans with the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley. The IBS will also strengthen its affiliations with the Ryukoku University in Kyoto, as the two institutions of Jodo Shinshu learning establish formal ties in the near future.

Support for the BCA Endowment Foundation's \$15 million Campaign for Buddhism in America was also expressed by the National Council. The newly appointed Director for Development for the Endowment Foundation, Mr. Richard Schellhase, was also introduced and spoke of his personal commitment to this campaign which seeks to establish financial stability to ensure the future of Jodo Shinshu in America.

A special presentation was also made on nuclear disarmament with the showing of the film "No Frames, No Boundaries." This session was held in view of the BCA's very close personal understanding of the horrors of nuclear warfare with the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Hanamatsuri Ochakai fest at New Otani

LOS ANGELES—Hanamatsuri Ochakai will be held at the Hotel New Otani on April 17 as part of the Hanamatsuri Festivities during that month. The event is sponsored by the Los Angeles Buddhist Church Federation (LABCF) and coordinated by Tansai-Kai Seinen-Bu, the Youth Group under Mme. Sosei Matsumoto of the Urasenke School of Tea Ceremony. Zenshuji Buddhist Temple, Nishi Hongwanji Betsuin, Gardena Buddhist Temple, Pasadena Buddhist Church, and San Fernando Valley Buddhist Temple are the participating Buddhist temples and church in this celebration of Buddha's birthday.

This event will consist of a Japanese luncheon (tenshin), tea ceremony demonstration, and the partaking of tea and unique confection.

Tickets will be sold in advance. Proceeds from this event will

benefit the Little Tokyo Service Center, which offers various programs for the Japanese community including the handicapped, disabled, and elderly. For more information or reservations, please contact Mme. Sosei Matsumoto at (213) 387-8444 or Reverend Fukushima of Zenshuji Temple at 624-8658. #

S.F. Mayor Feinstein to address JADC

SAN FRANCISCO—Mayor Diane Feinstein will be the guest speaker at the Japanese American Democratic Club's seventh annual dinner on Saturday, April 16, 6 p.m. at the Cathedral Hill Hotel, Van Ness Avenue and Geary Street. For further information call (415) 826-3835 or 826-4550 during business hours (ask for Finance Office) or (415) 567-4392 during evening hours.

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Sansei divorce rate may be on the rise, say social workers

GARDENA, Ca.—Though statistics on the divorce rate among third generation Japanese Americans have yet to be compiled, traditional values of marriage and family seem to be giving ground to contemporary attitudes of American society that stress individual satisfaction.

Ken Mitsuahata, a West Los Angeles-based private practicing social worker, said his observations while counseling individuals and couples have convinced him divorce is becoming more prevalent among Japanese Americans.

"I suspect if you asked anyone else, they would say 'Yes, it's increasing,'" he said. "If you took a poll among Japanese Americans, they would say it's on the rise."

"It is different now than it was 10 years ago, in terms of more acceptance simply because it's happening so much more. When I look at my own peer group and my generation, it was almost unheard of to hear that someone from the first or second generation would be getting a divorce."

The reasons for the break-up of Sansei marriages are no different from those of society in general, Mitsuahata said. He cited the common problems of lack of communication and the changing roles of men and women.

As acculturation continues and each succeeding generation becomes more Westernized, getting a divorce becomes more permissible, he said. But a lingering stigma is still attached to those Japanese Americans who forsake the traditional values that emphasize family and strike out on their own as individuals.

"In traditional culture," Mitsuahata explained, "the family unit is

more important than the individual. A tremendous amount of importance is placed on the family unit. In western culture, there is a great deal more emphasis placed on individualism."

What parents, grandparents and extended family members think carries more weight for Japanese Americans and thus, Sansei who seek divorces have "more resistance to overcome," according to Mitsuahata.

He said this resistance is a significant factor and comes up often during counseling sessions with those Sansei who have strong family ties. Mitsuahata helps the individual or the couple to look at the situation—the alternatives, the repercussions—and lets them decide the course of action.

"I don't take a position that advocates this cultural value is more important than that cultural value," he added.

Gardena-based licensed clinical social worker Satoshi Hayashi said it is his impression that cultural pressure to remain married is subsiding among third and fourth generation Japanese Americans.

"I'm sure it goes case by case but if you were to generalize, I'd say the constraints aren't as strong," he said.

As a counselor, he is sensitive to the issue of cultural pressure though he said he can't measure the extent of its prevalence among his Sansei clients.

"I always know that it can be an additional emotional strain on them."

But he added that it is more likely to be a factor when Nisei come in for marital counseling.

"I would expect there would be more cultural constraints when

I'm dealing with a second generation marriage," he said.

Laura Shiozaki, also a licensed clinical social worker with a private practice in Gardena, said that though the divorce rate among Sansei is not as high as the one out of three marriages among the general population, it is definitely a departure from traditional culture.

"Culturally you're raised to believe you stay in a marriage. All the values of Japanese society

teach you to put up with bad situations."

Shiozaki said most Sansei are not involved in established community organizations and decide for themselves what their goals are and what they want. This lack of community support has put more pressure and strain on the individual family unit.

"There's just too many pressures on the family to do so much that the community used to do."

—Gardena Valley News

United AL to begin Seattle-Japan route

LOS ANGELES—United Air Lines has announced that it will begin its new Seattle-to-Japan service on April 2. A reception/celebration to mark the event will be held on Tuesday, Mar. 29, 6-8 p.m. at the San Francisco Room of the Bona-venture Hotel.

UAL wishes to invite Japanese

American community and business leaders to this reception, and wants to send out printed invitations to them.

If you wish to join the festivities, please send the names and addresses to: United Air Lines, Attn: Jack Atkinson, PO Box 92245, Los Angeles, CA 90009. #



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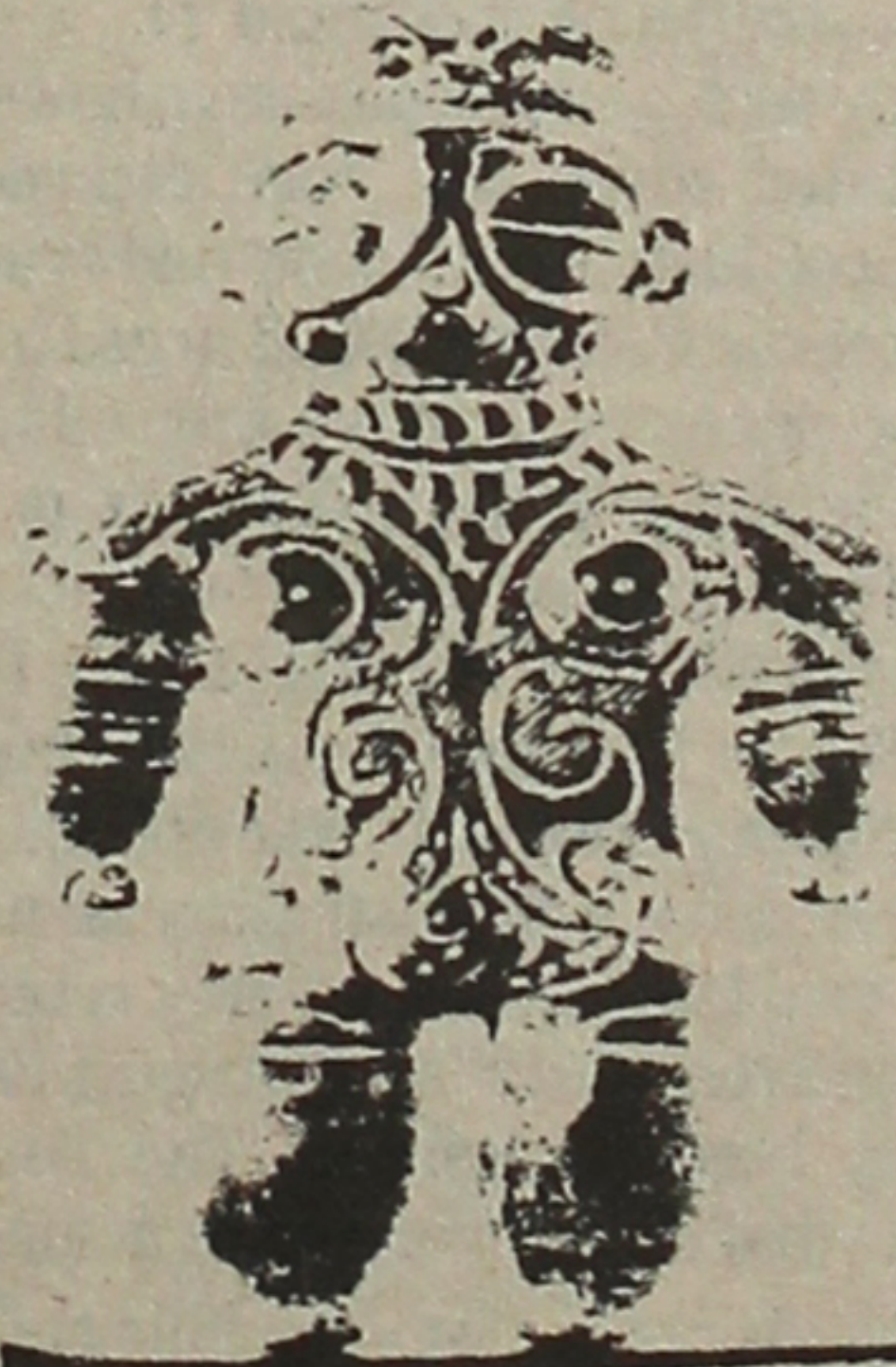
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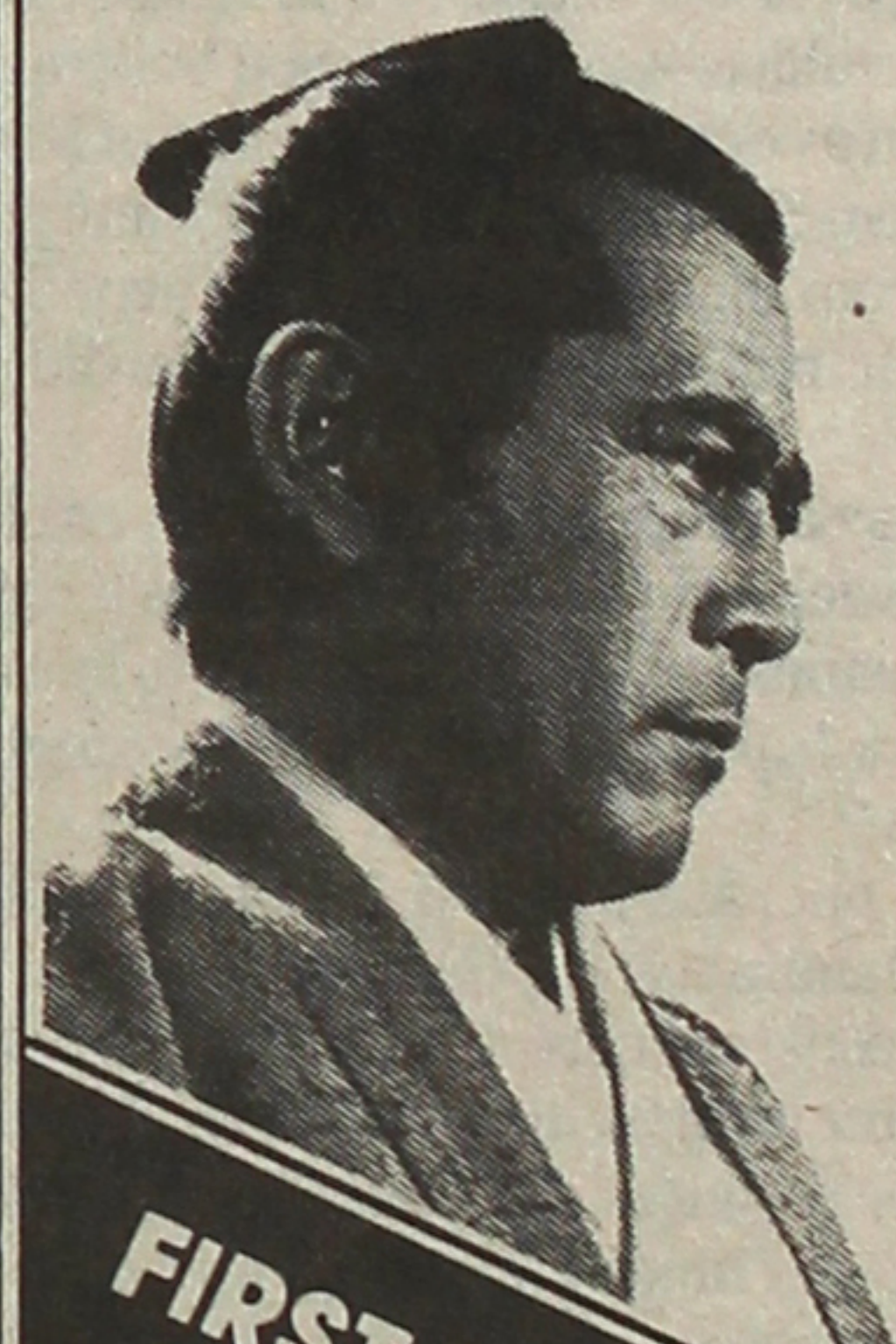
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CWRIC Report: Economic Loss

(Conclusion)
Small Businesses

Next to agriculture, major occupations of evacuees were in small shops and businesses. Shops, hotels, restaurants and other service-oriented businesses were common. Witnesses told how they were forced by circumstances to accept low prices or abandon property or, with a mixture of desperation and hope, to place the property in insecure storage.

Seattle evacuees had two hundred hotels which were typically run as family enterprises.⁵³ Shokichi Tokita's father had purchased a hotel in a prime downtown Seattle location after his health had been threatened by his original profession as a sign painter. As a painter the elder Tokita had been acclaimed by the Seattle Art Museum as one of the ten best artists in the Pacific Northwest. He made an equal success of his hotel:

They did very well... saving over \$16,000 over a five or six year period before the war. This was all lost in the evacuation.⁵⁴

One evacuee with extensive property holdings was forced to sell his forty-five room hotel for \$2,500 to a buyer who was able to make only a \$500 down payment; the balance was sent to the evacuee in camp two months later. The hotel owner's loss was accentuated by the fact that he was denied the profits which would have accrued to him in a defense boom town such as Seattle became during World War II.⁵⁵

A former interviewer with the U.S. Employment Service who had been assigned to the Federal Reserve Bank cited a number of loss cases; one woman had owned a twenty-six room hotel:

She came to me and said she was offered \$500 and no more and that she had three days in which to dispose of the property. Three days later, she came to me in tears, frustrated and frightened. She told me that she had to sell it for the \$500.⁵⁶

Other instances of women who had built up businesses and lost the fruit of years of labor were described. Widowed at age 32 with four young children to raise, one had used the proceeds of her deceased husband's insurance policy to buy a hotel in Stockton, California. Her son testified:

The hotel was a successful venture for [her] and then the war... [and] my mother was forced to sell the hotel for a piddling [amount] the day before we left.⁵⁷

She had purchased the hotel for \$8,000; it had been a home for her and her children. Now it was gone.

One Issei woman described taking over her husband's insurance business after he was confined to a tuberculosis sanitarium. She built up the business to the point where she had an average monthly income of \$300 to \$400 to support herself and her children. She found herself, her family and her northern California clients torn from their homes. Many of her clients had no way to continue paying their policy premiums, nor could she effectively service their policies.⁵⁸

The owner of an Oakland Oriental art and dry goods store was unable to dispose of his merchandise in a few weeks given him prior to his evacuation. No one wanted to purchase "Japanese products." He had to store an inventory worth more than \$50,000 in a Japanese Methodist Church which had been converted into a warehouse.⁵⁹

The Yoshida family, owners and operators of the Western Goldfish Hatchery and Western Aquarium Manufacturing Company, gave away their goldfish because they required constant care and feeding. Unable to find someone to purchase the goldfish within the three weeks before their evacuation, the Yoshidas had no other recourse. The hatchery comprised six large fish hatching ponds on an acre of land; they stored the aquarium inventory and personal property in the business sales office.⁶⁰

Anti-Japanese sentiment caused financial problems for the owners of many stores and restaurants. For example, at the Sukiyaki Restaurant in Salem, Oregon, FBI visits heightened anti-Japanese feeling. Vandals struck the restaurant and customers ceased to patronize it, afraid of being viewed as unpatriotic.⁶¹ In short, the small businessman fared no better than the farmer.

White Collar Workers

The small numbers of salaried workers and professionals also testified eloquently to the economic impact of evacuation; their losses were less tangible, but no less real than those of farmers and entrepreneurs. Doctors, dentists and architects lost their homes, their practices, their equipment and a lucrative period of their careers.⁶²

Many businessmen and professionals couldn't collect outstanding accounts and lost their accumulated charge account receipts.⁶³ Mrs. Mutsu Homma gave an example of the financial predicament of many evacuee professionals:

[Dr. Homma] after 10 years of dental practice in West Los Angeles and several months of working on people preparing to leave for relocation camps, had more than \$20,000 uncollected bills.⁶⁴

The salaried worker in some instances found that the curfew restricted his movements and prevented him from doing his job, or else he lost his chance for economic advancement.⁶⁵

Automobiles

Cars and trucks were in demand during the evacuation period by both the Army and the civilian population of the West Coast. In this post-Depression period of a growing economy the automobile was a proud

Letters

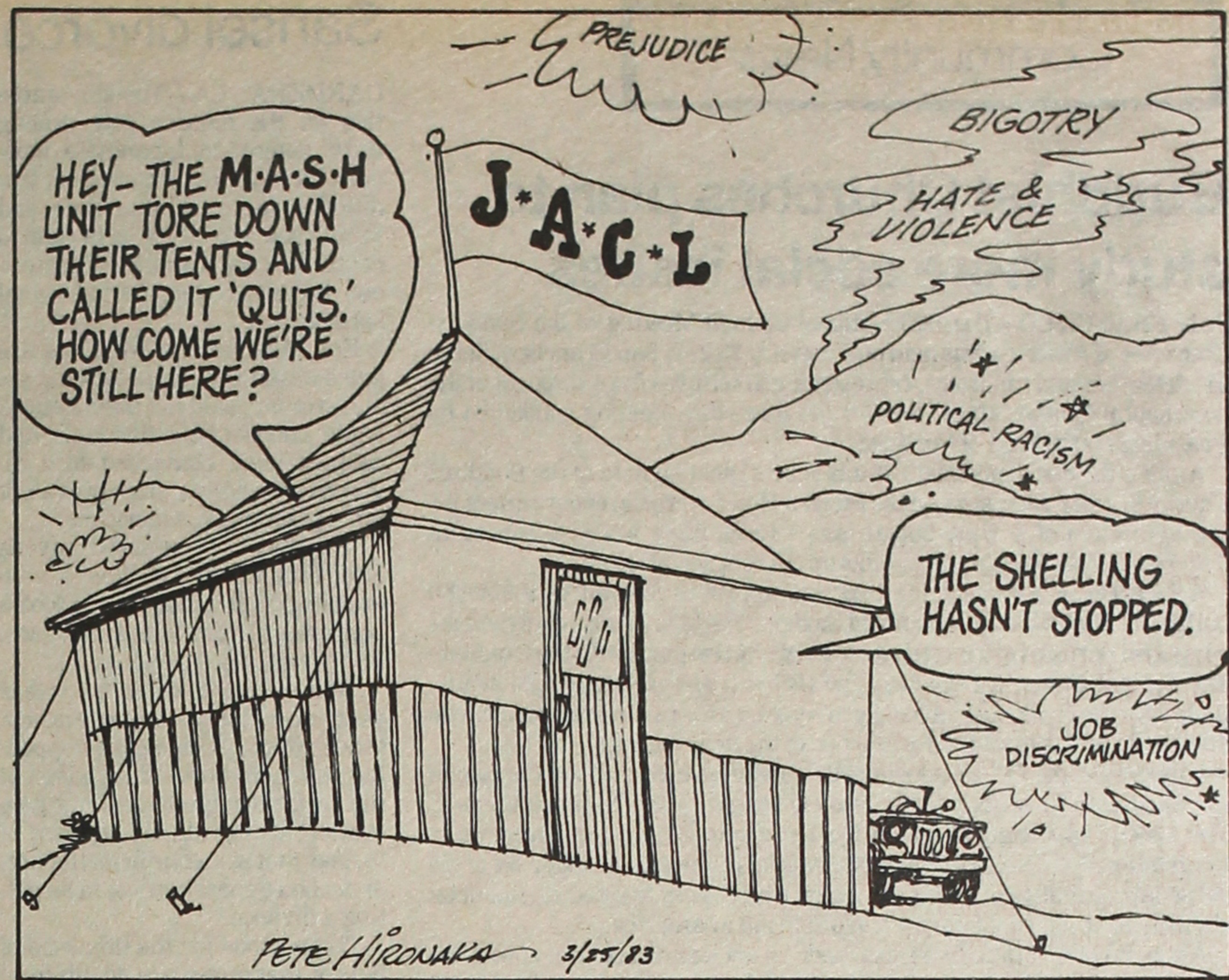
Proposed Amendment

Editor:

I lost a relative at Manzanar in 1942 and don't want to see such a mass evacuation or relocation inflicted on anybody ever again. Tinges of racism, I feel, were part and parcel of this regrettable chapter in American jurisprudence and history. To obviate any similar injustice recurring I would feel gratified to see passed into law a Constitutional Amendment, along the following lines, which would reduce the chance of such recurrence—in time of war, domestic turmoil, or peace—to a minimum. Experts please critique and improve the following:

"Neither by executive order nor emergency military-police powers, temporarily bestowed, but only by two-thirds vote of the Congress, shall authority be deemed valid for suspending or depriving a United States citizen of his birthright obtained under this Constitution, for longer than 72 hours."

TARO J. KAWAKAMI
(JACL life member and
Admirer of Mike Masaoka)
San Gabriel, Ca.



symbol of economic advancement. The auto's importance to the way of life and economic well-being of evacuees can be seen in the frequency and detail of car sales described by witnesses:

We had a 1939 car which I recall we sold for \$100 and a brand new Ford pickup truck for \$100.⁶⁶

In 1941 we purchased a new Chevrolet which the Army took and reimbursed us in the amount of \$300.⁶⁷

One man wanted to buy our pickup truck. My father had just spent about \$125 for a set of new tires and tubes and a brand new battery. So, he asked for \$125. The man "bought" our pickup for \$25.⁶⁸

Evacuees were permitted to dispose of their vehicles by private sale. The other option was to place the cars in government storage, but the deterioration likely to result from long-term storage encouraged evacuees to sell. General DeWitt's final report states that the majority of cars in storage were "voluntarily" sold to the Army.⁶⁹

Cars driven to the assembly centers were automatically placed in the custody of the Federal Reserve Bank. The vehicles were then valued by two disinterested appraisers and the possibility of resale to the Army or the civilian sector was considered. Those which qualified for Army purchase were quickly bought up by the government. The new 1942 models were sold only to auto dealers, so they would have stock; factories were being converted to wartime production.

Originally 1,905 vehicles were placed in the custody of the Federal Reserve Bank; 1,469 were voluntarily sold to the Army and 319 were released according to evacuee instructions. The remaining 117 remained in storage under Bank control.

In late fall 1942, the joint military authorities decided to requisition these vehicles "in consideration of national interest during wartime, and in the interests of the evacuees themselves."⁷⁰ Justifying this move, General DeWitt explained that only those vehicles in open storage whose owners had refused to sell were requisitioned.⁷¹

Property Disposal

It came to the attention of the Tolan Committee early in its West Coast hearings that frightened, bewildered Japanese were being preyed upon by second-hand dealers and real estate profiteers. On February 28, the Committee cabled Attorney General Biddle recommending that an Alien Property Custodian be appointed.⁷²

Before any such action was taken, however, evacuation was under way. Spot prohibited zones had been cleared of Japanese by order of the Department of Justice; the Navy had evacuated Terminal Island; and the Western Defense Command had urged a number of West Coast residents of Japanese ancestry to leave the military area voluntarily. Whatever their good intentions, the military's primary concern was to remove evacuees from the designated areas, not to look after their property.

In early March, the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco was given responsibility for handling the urban property problems of the evacuees; an Alien Property Custodian was appointed on March 11; and on March 15 the Farm Security Administration assumed responsibility for assisting with farm problems. Each agency retained its obligation until the WRA assumed total responsibility in August 1942.⁷³ By this time, many abuses had already been committed. The Tolan Committee gave a succinct example of what it discovered was going on:

A typical practice was the following: Japanese would be visited by individuals representing themselves as F.B.I. agents and advised that an order of immediate evacuation was forthcoming. A few hours later, a different set of individuals would call on the Japanese so forewarned and offer to buy up their household and other equipment. Under these conditions the Japanese would accept offers at a fraction of the worth of their possessions. Refrigerators were thus reported to have been sold for as low as \$5.⁷⁴

Property and business losses also arose from confusion among governmental agencies. The military's delay in providing reasonable and adequate property protection and its failure to provide warehouses or other secure structures contributed to initial evacuee losses. Confusion existed among the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, the Farm Security Administration and the Office of the Alien Property Custodian. Not only did each agency have different policies; there was also confusion within each about how to implement its program. Dillon S. Myer decried the result:

The loss of hundreds of property leases and the disappearance of a number of equities in land and buildings which had been built up over the major portion of a lifetime were among the most regrettable and least justifiable of all the many costs of the wartime evacuation.⁷⁵

In general people were encouraged to take care of their own goods and their own affairs.⁷⁶ Given the immense difficulties of protecting the diverse economic interests of 100,000 people, it is not surprising that despite the government's offer of aid it relied primarily on the evacuees to care for their own interests. Conversely, it is not surprising that, facing the distrust expressed in the government's exclusion policy, most evacuees wanted to do what they could for themselves. Approximately 11% of their farms were transferred to non-Japanese (there was a transfer of 3% to ethnic Japanese, probably the result of settlement of business affairs in anticipation of exclusion).⁷⁷

Evacuees were vulnerable to opportunists. Drove of people came to purchase goods and to take advantage of the availability of household furnishings, farm equipment, autos and merchandise at bargain prices.

Our house was in Garden Grove Boulevard about 200 yards on a dirt driveway and on the day before the posted evacuation date, there was a line up of cars in our driveway extending about another 200 yards in both directions along Garden Grove Boulevard, waiting their turn to come to our house...⁷⁸

It is difficult to describe the feeling of despair and humiliation experienced by all of us as we watched the Caucasians coming to look over our possessions and offering such nominal amounts knowing we had no recourse but to accept whatever they were offering because we did not know what the future held for us.⁷⁹

People who were like vultures swooped down on us going through our belongings offering us a fraction of their value. When we complained to them of the low price they would respond by saying, "you can't take it with you so take it or leave it"... I was trying to sell a recently purchased \$150 mangle. One of these people came by and offered me \$10.00. When I complained he said he would do me a favor and give me \$15.00.⁸⁰

The evacuees were angered by the response of their former friends and neighbors; some attempted to strike back however they could. Joe Yamamoto vented his feelings by

putting an ad in our local paper stating that I wanted to dispose of a car, a 1941, which had three brand new tires with it. These were premium items in those days. I gave an address that was fictitious. They could go chase around the block for a few times.⁸¹

Another evacuee related how he tried to destroy his house when he abandoned his property and his business after evacuation notices were posted on February 19, 1942:

I went for my last look at our hard work... Why did this thing happen to me now? I went to the storage shed to get the gasoline tank and pour the gasoline on my house, but my wife... said don't do it, maybe somebody can use this house; we are civilized people, not savages.⁸²

Oral Contracts and Caretakers

The evacuees were unprotected and vulnerable. The prevalent use of oral contracts created difficulties for many. The practice of regarding a person's word as binding, a carryover from Meiji Japan reinforced by dealing primarily within their own ethnic group, made it difficult for many evacuees to document when, where, how to what extent financial loss occurred. Their verbal agreements with caretakers frequently brought theft, fraud or misappropriation.

Kimiyo Okamoto followed the prevalent practice of evacuees in all walks of life and entrusted his property to a friend:

Prior to the evacuation we had a successful hotel business in Sacramento. Because of the time that was allotted to us, we were not able to sell our hotel... One of the trusted guests offered to manage our hotel. He was inexperienced, but we had no other choice.⁸⁴

Another Seattle witness asked Caucasian friends to take over the property and financial management of their apartment house. Unfortunately, they returned from camp to discover the property faced foreclosure due to three years' tax arrearage.⁸⁵

The daughter of concessionaires at Venice and Ocean Park Piers and small carnivals throughout California spoke of the problems created by FBI detention of her father. In desperation, her mother gave the carnival equipment—truck, trailer, games—to one employee and turned over the beach concessions to another who had agreed to act as caretaker until the evacuees returned. When the family did return, neither the business nor the employee could be found.⁸⁶

When the part-owner of a movie business was picked up by the FBI, his business was hurriedly entrusted to the man who had handled his business

Continued on Next Page

Karaoke: Japanese Portable Orchestras



Denver, Colo.

The first time I heard the word "Karaoke", I thought the Japanese were talking about an empty bucket whose symbolism escaped me. Karaoke. Kara—empty. Oke, pronounced o-keh—bucket.

I was right on the first half of the word but completely wrong on the second. Oke wasn't bucket, but short for orchestra, one of those strange Japanese contractions of foreign words like *apahto* for apartment house and *depahto* for department store.

And what on earth is an empty orchestra? Well, it's

CWRIC Continued from Page 4

insurance. The eager caretaker visited the owners while they were in camp to secure power-of-attorney, the caretaker moved to gain corporate ownership on the basis that all Japanese members of the corporation were "enemy aliens."

In sum, economic losses from the evacuation were substantial, and they touched every group of Nikkei. The loss of liberty and the stigma of the accusation of disloyalty may leave more lasting scars, but the loss of worldly goods and livelihood imposed immediate hardships that anyone can comprehend. Moreover, it was the loss of so much one had worked for, the accumulated substance of a lifetime—gone just when the future seemed most bleak and threatening.

Footnotes

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56. Testimony, Ben Yoshioka, Chicago, Sept. 22, 1981, pp. 127-28.
57. Testimony, Hosen Oshita, Chicago, Sept. 22, 1981, p. 355.
58. Testimony, Elaine Hayes, Seattle, Sept. 9, 1981, p. 224.
59. Testimony, Kinnosuke Hashimoto, New York, Nov. 23, 1981, p. 123.
60. Unsolicited testimony, George Yoshida, Los Angeles.
61. Testimony, Henry Tanaka, Chicago, Sept. 22, 1981, p. 155.
62. Testimony, Lillian Hayano, Chicago, Sept. 22, 1981, p. 325; Teru Watanabe, Los Angeles, Aug. 6, 1981, p. 246.
63. Unsolicited testimony, George J. Kasai, San Antonio, TX.
64. Testimony, Mutsu Homma, Seattle, Sept. 9, 1981, p. 171.
65. Testimony, William Kika, San Francisco, Aug. 12, 1981, p. 139.
66. Unsolicited testimony, Susumu Myose, Northridge, CA.
67. Unsolicited testimony, Shizuka LaGrange, Seattle, WA.
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78. Testimony, Hiroshi Kamei, Los Angeles, Aug. 6, 1981, p. 241.
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81. Unsolicited testimony, Roy Abbey, San Francisco, CA.
82. Testimony, Joe Yamamoto, Los Angeles, Aug. 4, 1981, p. 239.
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84. Testimony, Kimiyo Okamoto, San Francisco, Aug. 12, 1981, p. 220.
85. Testimony, Murako Kato, Seattle, Sept. 10, 1981, p. 40.
86. Testimony, Esther Takei Nishio, Los Angeles Aug. 6, 1981, p. 115.
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EDITORIALS Continued from Front Page

as well as their livelihoods, it is expected that it will do so before its mandate runs out in June. Yet a greater service to the nation would result if the commission's findings remain as a reminder of how quickly even this democracy can succumb to racism and hysteria."

The *Hartford Courant* in Connecticut said March 2 in "The Horrors of History" that "(a) nation which gives official recognition to the horrors perpetuated against one ethnic group has at least gone part of the way toward making amends."

The *Courant* said that if such an official investigation of the internment had been done earlier, many Nikkei, perhaps, could have obtained redress through the courts:

"... Victims of this misguided U.S. policy actually might have been entitled to payment through the courts had 40 years not gone by and had there been an earlier, official finding of illegal incarceration."

The *Courant* concluded:

"More important than putting a price on confinement, however, is the belated official recognition of the wrongdoing perpetrated by every branch of the federal government.

"The broad historical causes which shaped these decisions were race prejudice, war hysteria and a failure of political leadership," the commission says. It rejects the arguments of those who justify incarceration by arguing that Americans today cannot "recreate the atmosphere" and understand the threats to the national security felt by Americans in 1942.

The *Dayton Journal Herald's* associate editor of its editorial page, Laurence S. Newman Jr., called for some type of redress to the former internees:

"I don't know how a government can make it up to the people it treated so abominably. But reparations are clearly in order for the people it shamed, for the jobs that were lost, for the homes, enterprises and shops that were taken, for the hardships that were endured and, above all, for the scars that were inflicted.

"That will be addressed, the commission pledged, in May or June... It is a sad commentary on our democratic society that it has taken so long."

Ed. Note: Appreciation is extended MDC Regional Director Bill Yoshino, N.Y. JACLers Ken and Jane Yasuda and the PC's own Pete Hironaka for submitting these editorials.

been described as a sort of singing machine, and it's the kind of gadget only Japanese ingenuity could come up with. In brief, the machine plays cassettes of music recorded by a backup orchestra, and live amateur crooners pick up a microphone and provide the vocals.

After a few belts of beer or sake in a bar, which is the common man's club, a relaxed Japanese businessman finds it virtually impossible to resist the urge to get up and sing. The karaoke machine is relatively cheap, which live orchestras aren't. It doesn't need to take a break, and it fits into a small space, which Japanese bars are limited to. The pre-recorded band and all the drums, echo chambers and other audio gadgets help the singer think he sounds like "Flank Shinatra" or Nat King Cole.

Today, according to the *Japan Times*, some 300,000 Japanese bars, restaurants, banquet halls and other public places are equipped with karaokes. It's also estimated that 7% of Japanese households have them already as part of the home entertainment lineup, with the ownership rate reaching 20% in the next few years.

A few weeks ago karaoke was introduced at a Las Vegas trade show, so get set for a new invasion of Japanese technology and pop culture. U.S. prices for karaokes—do you imagine they'll be calling them Cariocas—

haven't been established but they sell in Japan for from \$250 to \$600, with tapes costing about \$6.

The American firm most interested in marketing karaokes is said to be Hal Roach Studios of Hollywood. The company reportedly is planning to produce 400 tape titles of background music for jazz, country and western, and old favorites calculated to win nostalgia market. It's not likely that a middle-aged American after a few beers could resist the urge to vocalize, or harmonize for that matter, those beautiful songs of yesteryear like Tennessee Waltz, Moon Over Miami and I Left My Heart In San Francisco.

Time Magazine has suggested that Japan has re-invented the sing-along, but the karaoke is more than that. It's a sort of second generation improvement over the portable cassette player without which some kids wouldn't be caught dead.

Who knows, karaoke parties fueled by a keg of suds may take the place of backyard barbecues in summer and bridge and Tupperware parties when the winds turn chill. At the least, they will have served a good purpose if they dull the current craze over electronic games, for which Japan must bear at least part of the blame.

Care to come over for wine, cheese and karaoke? #

EAST WIND: by Bill Marutani



'Beginnings'

Philadelphia

IT IS REFRESHING, rejuvenating, to break away from one's everyday routine and be exposed to something quite different. Having been invited to attend a recent community affair sponsored by the Nihonmachi Outreach Committee in San Jose, we drove down the peninsula to reach the city near dusk, proceeding to the Wesley United Methodist Church on Fifth Street where the gathering was being held. The program was already under way, and we noted elderly Issei seated to one side of the room toward the front: most of them had earphones draped over their heads. They were receiving simultaneous *Nihongo* translations of what was transpiring in English. "What a very thoughtful arrangement," I mused to myself. "These young people care." Indeed, they do.

AT THE BACK of the meeting hall was a long table where some empty bowls and cups lay about, evidence of a recent repast of *udon* and *o-cha*. Indeed, my hosts offered me some, but I settled for some green tea since I had had my meal earlier that evening. During two cups of *o-cha*, I followed with intent interest the various presentations of the evening. For this denizen from the East, who goes for weeks without seeing a Nikkei (other than at home), it was an enchanting evening.

AT THE CLOSE of the program, one of the hosts gave me a book, neatly wrapped. It's title "BEGINNINGS: Japanese Americans in San Jose," and in *Nihongo*, just below that—"A-ru san-no ze nikkei-jin no ayumi." The book printed on slick paper, consists of eight oral histories and throughout is liberally sprinkled with photos of the community, many of its families, its community events. The oldest photo I noted was one taken in 1910, showing the Kuwabara Hospital under construction. Undoubtedly, this was the "Issei Memorial Building" which we saw undergoing restoration on our visit to San Jose.

BUT GETTING BACK to that book. Again, the script consisted of English, with *Nihongo* translations right next to it. We read much of the oral history (the English side), impressed by the very direct, matter-of-fact relating of each Issei's recollection of the days of yore. In a few instances, I slid over to the *Nihongo* side and since the discourse was *yasa-shii*, found (to my amazement) that I could read much (but not all) of what was written. "Indeed," I thought to myself, "the book would make an excellent primer or refresher for one who once was able to read a fair amount of Japanese writing." Far easier than trying to read a newspaper in the Japanese language.

OFTEN TIMES WE think of the Issei as having been farmers with limited schooling. But in the oral history there are references to Rev. Francis Hayashi who attended Stanford's engineering school in the early 1920's but because he could not get a job, ultimately turned to the ministry—indeed, a noble calling. Then there's Mr. Katsusaburo Kawahara, who although he does not mention the fact, obviously was a very big, and successful, farmer. And Dr. Isamu Kawahara who graduated from the Dental School of U.C. in 1927. Again, Mr. Harry Nishura, who had a thriving construction business on the peninsula, and who had learned flying at the Curtis Wright Aeronautics School in the mid-20's. Just to mention a few.

IN JUST ABOUT all other Nikkei communities, this sort of courageous history could be repeated. #

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PANA Convention set in Lima, Peru on July 13-17

PALO ALTO, Ca.—The 1983 Pan American Nikkei Association Conference will be held July 13-17 at the Lima Sheraton in Lima, Peru, announced PANA chairman Chuck Kubokawa.

The opening plenary session on July 15 will be addressed by President Fernando Belaunde of Peru, with a reception that evening at the Japanese Embassy.

The PANA conference will feature business sessions and workshops on agriculture, finance and other professional ventures and areas.

The goal of conference has been to strengthen ties between the Nikkei of North and South America.

The official signing of the ratified PANA Constitution will take place at the conference as well.

Youth Program

According to Kubokawa, there will also be a Youth Program and Latin American Nikkei youth are looking forward to meeting with youth from North America.

In addition, Kubokawa urges Nikkei of all ages to attend as

well.

Kubokawa is also calling for proposals on any specific business matters (450-500 words), which may be sent to him at 3365 Stockton Place, Palo Alto, CA 94303. Papers should be sent in by April 15 for consideration.

Dining with Lima Families

In the tradition of the first PANA Conference in Mexico City, PANA boosters and delegates will be able to dine and socialize at the homes of families in Lima.

The conference will also feature an art show displaying the various works of Nikkei artists of the member PANA nations.

Other activities scheduled include a sports tournament (golf, bowling, tennis and fishing); meetings with local Kenji-Kai; dance/socials and entertainment.

Registration for adults is \$100 and includes three lunches, a Sayonara banquet-dance, a tour of Lima, Grand Bingo Show-Dance, conference materials and a folklore show.

Kubokawa noted that he is currently working on finding the best package for PANA Conference travel, hotel, ground transportation and baggage handling expenses.

For more information on the PANA Conference contact Kubokawa by mail or call (415) 965-5554. #

ELA JACL to select Nisei Wk. candidate

LOS ANGELES—The East Los Angeles JACL will select its representative for the 1983 Nisei Week Queen contest at its annual Emerald Dinner on Saturday, March 26 at Steven's Steak House in City of Commerce.

At the coronation dinner, three contestants are in the running for the title of Miss East L.A. JACL and will also preside during the VFW 9902 Cherry Blossom Festival in April. The candidates are: Stella Daita, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Shoji Daita of So.

San Gabriel; Deena Tokuda, daughter of Mrs. and Mrs. Paul Tokuda of Montebello; and Robin Oshiro, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Nobuhiro Oshiro of Montebello.

For reservations, contact co-chairpersons Mable Yoshizaki at (213) 263-8469 or Mattie Furuta at 262-8580. #

Pan Asian seeks queen candidate

MONTEREY PARK, Ca.—Pan Asian JACL is seeking applicants to represent the chapter in the 1983 Nisei Week Queen Pageant in August.

General requirements are that the candidate must be between the ages of 18 and 24 on the day of the Coronation Ball, be of at least fifty percent Japanese ancestry, a U.S. citizen, and have never married.

Deadline for applications is April 11. For more information, contact Pan Asian JACL, P.O. Box 189, Monterey Park, Ca. 91754 or call Karen Kishi (213) 263-0037 after 4 p.m.

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LOS ANGELES—Min Yasui presented a dynamic speech on redress at his own personal coram nobis petition during a joint installation of Pasadena, Wilshire and Hollywood JACL Chapters at the Velvet Turt Restaurant in Chinatown on Feb. 6.

The appreciative audience of 100 honored Pasadena president Fuy Hiraoka, Wilshire's Tut Yata and Hollywood's Louis Moore. Installation ceremonies were performed by John Saito.

PSWDC Gov. Cary Nishimoto emphasized redress as the No. 1 priority for JACL, while asking for support to make 1983 a banner year for PSWDC.



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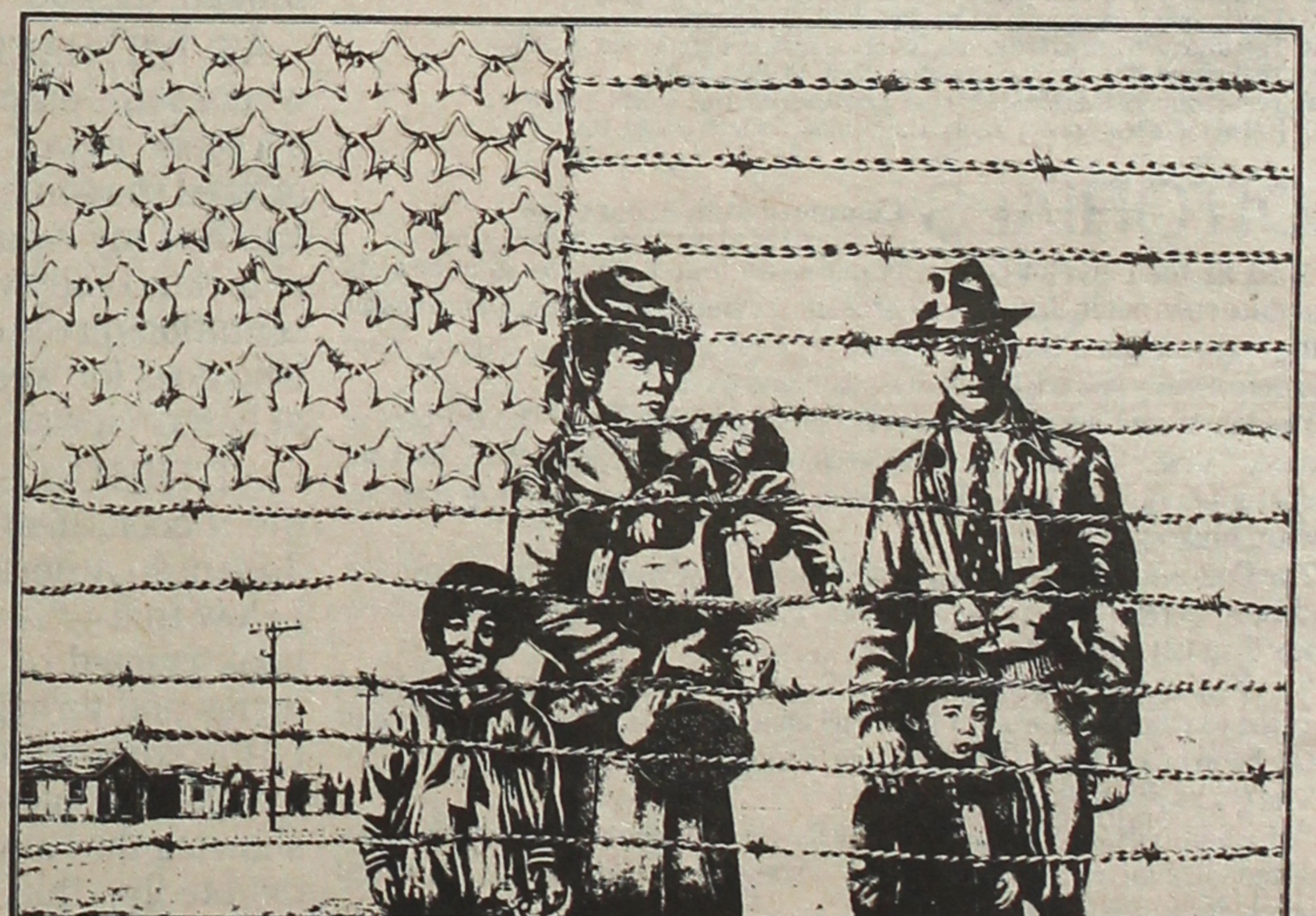
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All proceeds are restricted to the National JACL redress campaign. Send your \$50 contribution or more to the campaign directly to National JACL Headquarters... Leyonmark's artwork first appeared illustrating an article on redress in the Cleveland Plain Dealer on June 14, 1981. He was guest of JACL at the Day of Remembrance program held last Feb. 19 in San Francisco.

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DAY OF REMEMBRANCE AT JACL HQ—Among those participating in the "Day of Remembrance" event at JACL HQ on Feb. 19 were (l to r): Philadelphia Judge and CWRIC member William Marutani; JACL National President Floyd Shimomura; "American Nightmare" artist Roger Leyonmark; and Los Angeles County Deputy Supervisor Mas Fukai. Others participating but not pictured were San Francisco Supervisors Louise Renne and Quentin Kopp; S.F. Mayor Dianne Feinstein; State Sen. Milton Marks; and Diablo Valley JACLer Molly Fujoka.

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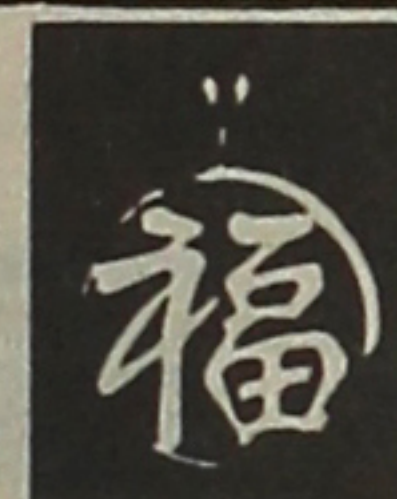
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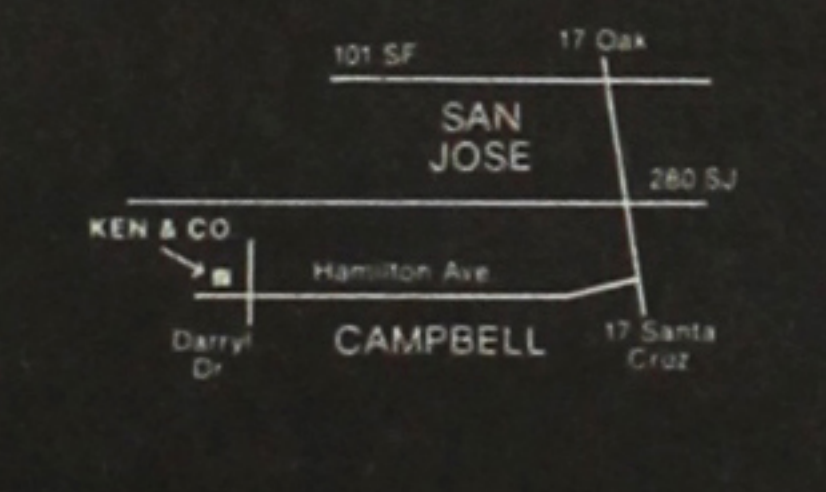
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WA. STATE

Continued from Front Page

And Sen. A.L. (Slim) Rasmussen, (D-Tacoma), said officials all along the West Coast who obeyed the presidential order were merely "following the orders of their commander in chief."

Many of the young Japanese American men who volunteered for the Army and fought for the United States "were happy that their loved ones were in a secure camp when feelings in the country were so strong," Rasmussen said. "In war time, your constitutional rights go by the board."

He objected to paying the money to the former employees because of the thousands of others who never returned "and their widows who are here right now" not being recompensed.

Sen. Frank (Tub) Hansen, (D-Moses Lake), objected that the bill was doing "special favors" just for former state employees and ignoring the many others, including Japanese American farmers, who were also uprooted and lost their properties.

Nikkei Comments

The injuries suffered by Frank and Mae Kinomoto have faded in almost 40 years, and they are reluctant to discuss how their own country turned on them.

"It is very hard for my father to talk about it," explains their son Mark, 30. "It is their way. I don't think I could do it, keep it inside."

The son said it took great courage for his parents to testify about wartime internment recently at state and federal hearings.

Frank Kinomoto, 73, a life member of the Seattle JACL, who would just as soon let bygones be bygones, struggled with himself to explain in public why other Americans should pay now for pain inflicted years ago, his son said.

But the testimony of Kinomoto and others about what it was like to be uprooted, locked behind barbed wire and guarded by gun-toting soldiers bore fruit, for it resulted in senate passage of the bill.

Ron Sims, an aide to Sen. Fleming, believes "it is going to be a lot tougher" for the bill to get through the House.

Cherry Kinoshita of the Seattle JACL, sees the pay-

ment as "just a token. It is not going to make up for anything."

Frank and Mae Kinomoto were ordered from their apartment early in 1942 "with what we could carry in a sea-bag," Mae Kinomoto recalled. "We lost a lot." Gone was their furniture, appliances, much of their clothing.

A friend sold Kinomoto's car for him—but nothing could be done to save his job as field auditor for the state Tax Commission.

The biggest loss was freedom. First at Camp Harmony at Puyallup, and then at Camp Minidoka in Idaho, "we were treated like war prisoners. If I wanted to go see a friend in another block, I had to get a soldier to go with me. He waited outside while I talked to my friend, and he walked me back," recalled Kinomoto.

His income dropped from \$165 to \$19 a month. "I was a professional so I got \$19. The others got only \$16."

Four people were crowded into a small room with bunks. There was little or no privacy. Toilet and eating facilities were shared with everyone else in the barracks-type building.

After 18 months of imprisonment, Kinomoto volunteered to serve the U.S. Army, becoming a civilian instructor at a Japanese language school at the University of Michigan.

At war's end, he returned to Seattle. Mae Kinomoto remembers the days of starting over as "very tough, very tough. It was lot of very long days and nights. We worked very hard."

She declined to discuss some details of how they battled to restart their lives. "There are some things we just don't want to talk about."

Although they lost a great deal and are reticent about the ordeal, they say they are not bitter. "That is the way they were brought up," notes son Mark.

The Kinomotos, snug in their North Seattle brick home, don't appear to desperately need the \$5,000. Sims indicated the payment may be needed more to heal other wounds, those of their captors.

(Compiled from reports of the Seattle Times and the Seattle Post-Intelligencer).

YASUI

Continued from Front Page

the way of monetary reparations."

Undoubtedly drawing on his experience as an attorney and Executive Director of the Committee on Community Relations in Denver, Colorado, Yasui spoke in pragmatic terms of the possibility of monetary reparations passing through Congress. 218 out of 435 Congressmen and 51 out of 100 senators must be persuaded to agree with the Commission's recommendations.

In describing the current status of the coram nobis petitions—and a motion is being filed to have them consolidated in San Francisco—Yasui spoke of the efforts of a "dedicated group of Sansei lawyers who have volunteered thousands of hours to produce 276 pages of documentation in an effort to make legal history."

"It's a tremendous response to an awesome challenge," he continued, "against the power of the U.S. government."

In its past decisions, he stated, "The Supreme Court has ruled that the evacuation was an absolutely constitutional and legal exercise of all power."

This judicial route to make null and void the decisions by the Supreme Court gained nation-wide attention on January 19th of this year when Yasui and two other Japanese American petitioners—Gordon Hirabayashi and Fred Korematsu—charged that the U.S. governmental officials suppressed evidence which might have prohibited the WW II internment of Japanese Americans. Their Writ of Error Coram nobis is a means of

obtaining a reversal of their convictions.

By reversing their convictions, Yasui said, the Supreme Court will find it all the more difficult in the future to make distinctions between citizens on the basis of ancestry.

In referring to redress/reparation activities, he stated that at a JACL National Committee for Redress meeting held on January 22 and 23 of this year, the Committee agreed on three principles—irregardless of what the CWRIC recommends—one, that monetary redress be demanded; two, that individuals shall be compensated, and three, that the individual redress for 40,000 internees no longer alive shall be set aside in a trust fund for the benefit of the Nikkei community. Yasui added that it was his opinion that this latter principle be modified so that the fund be formed for the purpose of protecting the rights of all United States citizens—this, to assuage the prejudices of Southern politicians. Yasui ended his talk with the warning that "there will be tremendous political battles ahead."

In the discussion period Yasui said that financial backing for the coram nobis fund was still badly needed and that monies could be sent to the Asian Law Caucus, c/o Dan Tamaki, 1322 Webster Street, Suite 415, Oakland, California 94612. He also urged individuals to write to the CWRIC at 726 Jackson Place NW, Washington, DC 20506 to express their views concerning the formulation of its recommendations.

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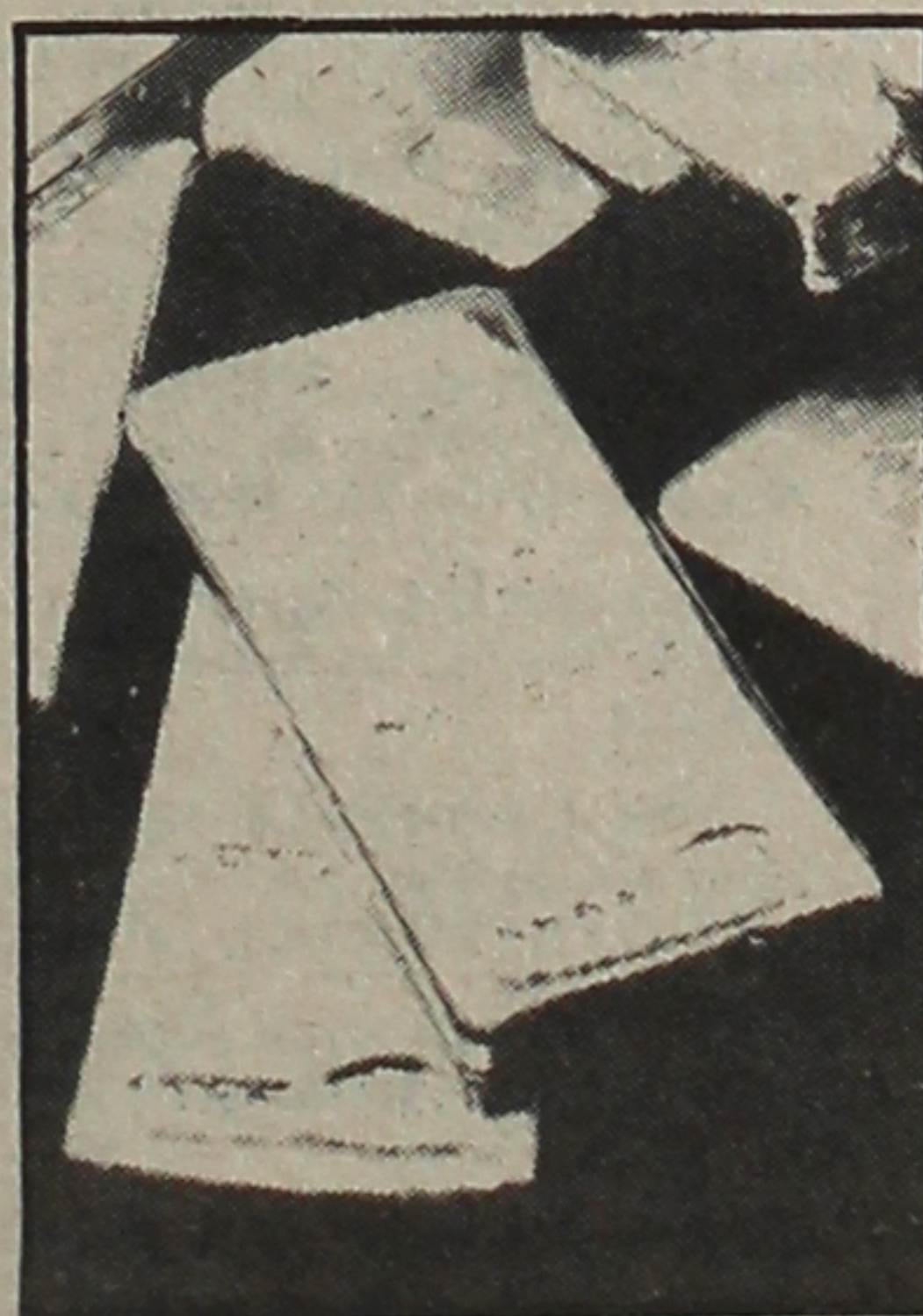
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